

COMMUNICATION

FROM THE

COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE,

IN RELATION

To the bill to authorize the laying off a town at Trader's Point.

FEBRUARY 9, 1849.

Ordered to be printed, to accompany bill S. 408.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE,
February 7, 1849.

SIR: In answer to your enquiries of the 27th ultimo, I have the honor to state that this office has but little information relative Trader's Point, on the Missouri river, in Iowa, where it is proposed to lay off a town by the bill enclosed by you, as the surveys of the public lands have not yet been extended there. It is understood, however, that there is considerable of a settlement at that point, and that the trade of the upper country, in which there are a number of settlers, concentrates at that point. The plan proposed by this bill will enable each settler at the Point to secure his improvements; whereas, without it, the land will have to be offered at public sale, as it is not subject to pre-emption, having been settled for purposes of trade, and not for agriculture. I would therefore suggest, as this bill seems to guard the public interests at every point, and is complete in its provisions, that it should become a law, as the only means of doing justice to the settlers.

The bill is herewith enclosed.

With great respect, your obedient servant,
RICHARD M. YOUNG,

Commissioner.

HON. S. BREESE,

Chairman Committee on Public Lands, Senate United States.

COMMUNICATION

FROM THE

COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE,

IN REPLY TO

To the bill to authorize the leasing of a town at French's Point.

FEBRUARY 9, 1849.

Ordered to be printed to accompany bill a. 408.

General Land Office,
February 7, 1849.

Sir: In answer to your enquiries of the 27th ultimo, I have the honor to state that this office has but little information relative to French's Point, on the Missouri river, in Iowa; where it is proposed to lay off a town by the bill enclosed by you, as the surveys of the public lands have not yet been extended there. It is understood, however, that there is considerable of a settlement at that point, and that the trade of the upper country, in which there are a number of settlers, concentrates at that point. The plan proposed by this bill will enable each settler at the Point to secure his improvements; whereas, without it, the land will have to be offered at public sale, as it is not subject to pre-emption, having been settled for purposes of trade, and not for agriculture. I would therefore suggest, as this bill seems to guard the public interests at every point, and is complete in its provisions, that it should become a law, as the only means of doing justice to the settlers.

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With great respect, your obedient servant,

RICHARD M. YOUNG,

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Hon. S. BRESSE,

Chairman Committee on Public Lands, Senate United States.